

In the Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein converting the analog phone call signal to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device comprises routing the digital VoIP phone call signal from the phone network interface to through a cable modem device for communication to the local access Internet provider.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein converting the phone call to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device comprises routing the digital VoIP phone call signal from the phone network interface through a digital subscriber line (DSL) modem device for communication to the local access Internet provider.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of routing phone calls in a communication system, the method comprising:
within a phone network interface, selectively carrying out based on a called number to which a phone call is directed: 1) routing [[a]] the phone call received as an analog signal from a phone through an analog phone line for communication to a local access phone provider for communication and across a public switched telephone network (PSTN); or 2) converting the analog phone call signal to a digital Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VoIP) phone call signal and routing the digital VoIP phone call signal to through a broadband network modem device for communication to a local access Internet provider for communication and across a packet switched network based on a called number to which the phone call is directed.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein routing the phone call received as an analog signal from a phone through an analog phone line for communication to a local access phone provider routing a phone call through an analog phone line to a local access phone provider for communication across a PSTN is carried out when the called number corresponds to at least one predefined number.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein converting the analog phone call signal to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the digital VoIP phone call signal to a broadband network modem device converting the phone call to a VoIP phone call and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device to a local access Internet provider for communication across a packet switched network is carried out when the called number does not correspond to the at least one predefined number.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the predefined number is 911.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein routing the phone call received as an analog signal from a phone through an analog phone line for communication to a local access phone provider routing a phone call through an analog phone line to a local access phone provider for communication across a PSTN is carried out when the called number corresponds to an emergency number, and converting the analog phone call signal to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the digital VoIP phone call signal to a broadband network modem device converting the phone call to a VoIP phone call and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device to a local access Internet provider for communication across a packet switched network is carried out when the called number does not correspond to an emergency number.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein:
routing the phone call received as an analog signal from a phone through an analog phone line for communication to a local access phone provider routing a phone call through

~~an analog phone line to a local access phone provider for communication across a PSTN comprises establishing an analog connection between a phone and the PSTN; and converting the analog phone call signal to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the digital VoIP phone call signal to a broadband network modem device converting the phone call to a VoIP phone call and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device to a local access Internet provider for communication across a packet switched network comprises establishing a digital connection between the phone and the packet switched network.~~

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising selectively converting an analog signal from the phone to a digital signal based on the called number.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 4, further comprising selectively providing the called number to the PSTN or the packet switched network based on the called number.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein ~~converting the analog phone call signal to a digital VoIP phone call signal and routing the digital VoIP phone call signal to a broadband network modem device converting the phone call to a VoIP phone call and routing the VoIP phone call through a broadband network modem device to a local access Internet provider for communication across a packet switched network~~ further comprises routing the VoIP phone call to a Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VoIP) provider.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The phone adapter of Claim 16, wherein the controller is configured to route the VoIP phone call through a cable modem device to the local access Internet provider.

15. (Previously Presented) The phone adapter of Claim 16, wherein the controller is configured to route the VoIP phone call through a digital subscriber line (DSL) modem device to the local access Internet provider.

16. (Currently Amended) A phone adapter comprising:
a phone interface that is configured to be communicatively connected to a phone via an analog phone line;

a PSTN interface that is configured to be communicatively connected to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) via an analog phone line;

an Internet interface that is configured to be communicatively connected to a broadband network interface device that can be communicatively connected to the Internet;
and

a controller that is configured to selectively: 1) route [[a]] an analog phone call signal that is received through the phone interface from a phone through the PSTN interface and through an analog phone line to a local access phone provider for communication across a public switched telephone network (PSTN) or to 2) convert the analog phone call signal to a digital Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VoIP) phone call signal and route the digital VoIP phone call signal through the Internet interface to the [[a]] broadband network interface device to a local access Internet provider for communication across a packet switched network based on a called number to which the phone call is directed.

17. (Currently Amended) The phone adapter of Claim 16, wherein the controller is configured to route the phone call through the PSTN interface and the analog phone line to the local access phone provider for communication across the PSTN when the called number corresponds to at least one predefined number.

18. (Currently Amended) The phone adapter of Claim 16, wherein the controller is configured to determine whether the called number corresponds to at least one predefined number, and further comprising a switch that is configured to selectively pass a signal the

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Serial No.: 10/653,670
Filed: September 2, 2003
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analog phone call signal from [[a]] the phone interface through the PSTN interface to the PSTN based on the determination by the controller.

19.-24. (Canceled).